Abstract for LMOP 9th Annual Conference – Baltimore, Maryland

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Landfill Gas-to-Energy Projects in Maryland

This paper will discuss how several recent landfill gas-to-energy projects have been licensed in the State of Maryland to provide power in a deregulated energy market. Utilizing the examples of four projects that recently obtained or are currently in the process of obtaining Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) from the Maryland Public Service Commission, the key environmental issues associated with landfill gas projects will be discussed. Of particular emphasis will be:

- The types and quantities of air emissions that are generated from combustion of landfill gas;
- A comparison of emissions from flaring landfill gas with those generated from combusting landfill gas in engine/generator sets;
- Noise predictions for the projects sited in Maryland; and
- Water needs for such projects.

Discussion will also be made of the typical licensing conditions that have been developed to address air impacts from landfill gas-to-energy projects in ozone nonattainment areas.